Udugampola, a former Sri Lanka D.I.G. Police alleging that the Sri Lankan Presidtnt had scuttled an enquiry which could have provided a link between the assassination of the Sri Lankan Minister, Ranjan Wijeratne and Shri Rajiv Gandhi; and

(b) if so, what is Government's own information and reaction to report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government are aware of the affidavit made by former Sri Lanka D.I.G., Mr. Premadasa Udugampola on 31-1-92 in which *inter alia* he has referred to a possible nexus between the method and manner of the assassinations of Mr. Ranjan Wijeratne, Sri Lanka Minister of State for Defence and Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Government have also noted the subsequent statement by the Sri Lanka Prime Minister in which he has debunked the allegations in the affidavit, stating that they contain many matters which are false and misleading. The statement also adds that on the basis of the investigations by the Sri Lanka CID, into the assassination of Mr. Ranjan Wijeratne, indictments have been filed in the Sri Lanka High Court.

Nevertheless, the possibility of a nexus between the assassinations of Mr. Ranjan Wijeratne and Shri Rajiv Gandhi is being looked into by our investigating agency.

Names of the Members of Governing Body of ICCR

524. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council for Cultural Relations has a Governing Body;

(b) if so, details of its constitution and how the members of the same are appointed; and

(c) the names of the present members of the Governing Body of the Council ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement-I is laid on the Table of the House. (*See* below).

(c) A Statement-II is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement—I

The Constitution of the ICCR, a copy of which is placed in the Parliament Liberary, in Article 7 provides for the Governing Body to consist of the following members :

(i) President;

(ii) Three Vice-Presidents;

(iii) Secretary;

(iv) Financial Adviser;

(v) Three members nominated by the Government of India from among their nominees on the General Assembly;

(vi) Nine members to be elected by the General Assembly from amongst its members of whom at least one shall be a member of the Rajya Sabha and two of the Lok Sabha.

Statement—II

List of Members of the Governing Body of the ICCR

1. Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma Vice President of India/President, ICCR
2. Shri J. N. Dixit Foreign Secretary/ Vice President, ICCR
3. Smt. Pupul Jayakar Vice President, ICCR
4. Shri H. Y. Sharada Prasad Vice President, ICCR
5. Smt. (Dr) Najma Heptulla Deputy Chairman Rajya Sabha
6. Shri Arvind Trivedi, MP
7. Smt Bibhu Kumari Devi, MP
8. Dr D. P. Chattopadhyay Calcutta

9. Shri M. J. Akbar

10. Shri Anil Bordia Secretary (Education)

11. Shri Bhaskar Ghose Secretary (Culture)

12. Dr. (Smt.) Kapila Vatsyayan Secretary Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts

13. Smt. Meera Kumar

14. Shri K. A. Chandrasekharan Additional Secretary (FA) Ministry of External Affairs

15. Dr. Lokesh Chandra Director International Akademi of Indian Culture

16. Smt. Mallika Sarabhai Director Darpana Akademi of Arts

17. Dr. Man Mohan Singh Finance Minister, New Delhi

18. Prof. C Narayana Reddy Vice Chancellor Telugu University Hyderabad

19. Smt. Veena Sitkri DG, ICCR.

कुवैत में भारतीय लोग

525. **श्री अजीत जोगी :**

कुमारी आलिया : क्या विदेश मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) खाड़ी-युद्ध छिड़ने के फलस्वरूप भारत आने वाले भारतीयों की संख्या सहित उन लोगों की संख्या कितनी है जो अब तक कुवैत लौट गये हैं ;

(ख) इस समय कुवैत में कार्यरत भारतीयों की संख्या कितनी है ; और

(ग) भारत-सरकार द्वारा कुवैत लौट रहे भारतीयों को प्रदान की गई सुविधाओं का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एडुआर्डो-फलेरियो) : (क) इस समय ऐसे भारतीय राष्ट्रिकों की संख्या अनुमानत: 80 हजार है।

(ख) इस समय कुवैत में अनुमानत: 78 हजार भारतीय काम कर रहे हैं।

(ग) सरकार ने उन भारतीय राष्ट्रिकों की वापसी को सुविधाजनक बनाने और तेज करने के लिए विभिन्न कदम उठाए हैं जिन्हें खाड़ी के देशों से प्रत्यावर्तित किया गया था। इनमें शामिल हैं अप्रवासन निकासी की अपेक्षाएं खत्म करना, पासपोर्ट शीघ्रतापूर्वक जारी करना और कुवैत के लिए एयर इंडिया को उड़ाने पुन: शुरू करना।

Plight of Indian Workers in Plantation Sector in Malaysia

526. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of Indian workers in the plantation sector in Malaysia;

(b) whether Malaysian Indian Congress has attracted the attention of Government of India about the plight of plantation workers in Malaysia; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government for safeguarding the interests of Indian workers there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Indian Nationals are not authorised by the host Government to work in the plantation sector in Malaysia. No instance has come to Government of India's notice about employment of Indian nationals in the said sector in Malaysia.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.